RAILROAD GRANTS.

The Eccretary of the Interior ca Land Grants.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 1 -In his annual report Mr. Lamar, Secretary of the Interior gives some interesting facts in regard to

railroad land grants. The report says: Shortly after my appointment to the position which I now have the honor to hold, and as became somewhat familiar with the public land system, its organizations and the workin a thereof. I became more and more impressed with the fact that the public domain was being diverted from its legitimate purpose and converted to objects, the inevitable effects of which were repugnant to the entire theor, on which the land system was based.

Apart from the methods of illegal appropriation of the public domain effected through the perversion of the several laws for acquiring titic thereto, I became convinced that the administration of Congressional grants of lands to wagon and rail roads had given rise to enormous abuses. Congress had not only made grants. e somewhat familiar with the public lan

wagon and rait roads had given rise to coormone abuses. Congress had not only made grants, which, in some instances, exceeded in extent the area of a half dozen of the irrest and most populous States of the Union, but in addition, provided that any losses of lands withis the granted limits should be satisfied by selections granted limits should be sminfed by selections of lands within other and adjoining limits, thus nearly doubling the area of the original grant. Under these acts, the land department had withdrawn from public appropriation not or the granted limits as required by law, but also the lands within the indemnity limits, at the request of the grantee companies. Thus coormous quantities of the public lands were held in reservations to want the convenience of the properties. titles of the public lands were held in reservation to await the convenience of the respective
corporations in the construction of their roads,
the selection of its lands; and the uncertain adjustments of the grants by the department. I
do not for a moment question the wisdom of siding in the construction of railroads. That
policy was at the time a wise one, but in the
light of experience it may well be asked whether
it would not have been wise to have aided these
great enterprises otherwise than by grants of
the public domain. Though much good has
been wrought, certain it is that the legislation
by which these wast territories passed under by which these wast territories passed under the dominion of ratiroad companies gave an incurable wound to the homestead scheme be-fore that scheme had a fair opportunity for dis-playing its beneficent effects. This land grant legislation was certainly not in harmony with the theory of the distribution of the public do-main around the propole and gave up to continmain among the people, and gave up to capital-ists as a basis for traffic and speculation and gigantic financial schemes what was, by the original policy of the Government, designed to be homes for an industrious and thrifty people, the abodes of domestic happiness and virtue

Notwithstanding these indemnity withdrawals Notwithstanding these indemnity withdrawals were made exclusively for the interests of the company, few of these, if any of them, constructed their roads within the time prescribed in the granting act, as an express condition on which the grant was made. Maps of "probable," "general." "designat-d" and "definate" routes of said road were filed with rapidity in the department, and withdrawals thereunder asked and almost invariably granted, until the public land, States and Territories, were crid-ironed over with railroad, granted and ingrid-ironed over with railroad, granted and indemnity limits: and in many instances the limits of one road overlapping and conflicting with other roads in the most bewildering man-ner, so that the settler, seeking a home, could scarcely find one, or perhaps two or three of the roads to which grants of land had been made by

Congress.

Nor was this all. Though the desired tract might not be apparently covered by a railroad location, the settler would hardly select it before agents of the corporations would set up a claim to it, or to the right to occupy and denude it, under the right of way and construction privileges conferred by the granting act. Thus the settler, ignorant of his legal rights, and with no one to advise him with respect to either the law or the facts, would for the sake either the law or the facts, would, for the sake of peace and a home, readily consent to pur-chase from the company. In this way these corporations, in addition to the lands granted them, have claimed, sold and received the price of a great deal of other land to which they had neither legal nor moral right, nor the shadow of either.
The intrusion, the hardship and imposition

practiced upon the settlers were greatly in-creased by the bold schemes of the corporated agents where withdrawais were made of lands to which the legal title of the companies had not attached, and which afterwards remained in the same condition for years through the failure of Congress to make the necessary ap-propriations for the surveys. When, however, through partial surveys and adjustments of grants, lands thus sold by a company were found to be cutside of the grants and determined by the department to be public lands, the purchaser from the company found himself in the unfortunate predicament of having lost both big land and his money Generally with both his land and his money. Generally with out the means to enter into a costly litigation with a powerful corporation, the deprivation of his home, the expenditure and waste of his years, his energy and strength, in redeeming that home from its wild condition, rendered his mere technical right of action against the company but little more than a mockery. Years have clapsed since many of the grants have been made and other years since the withdrawals. Some of the companies have constructed the entire limit of their roads. others fragmentary portions only and others again none at all, but the withdrawals of the lands were no less effective as a barrier agains the settlers in the one case than in the other It mattered not what might be his equities ac to be apart of the National domain, it was de clared by the highest judicial tribunal, as ex-pounded by the highest law officers of the exec

pounded by the nighest law officers of the executive, that a withdrawal once made by competent authority was legal and effective to exclude all from intrusion within its limits.

One case where hardship and injustice were about to be inflicted under the law came under your observation. Guilford Miller settled upon lands afterward selected and claimed by the Northern Pacific Railfroad Company to be within the withdrawal for indemnity purposes. Some doubt srising as to the legality of that withdrawal the case was referred by this depart-drawal the case was referred by this departdrawal the case was referred by this department to the Attorney-General for his opinion on the question of the law. That officer held that the withdrawai was legal, and that during its existence Miller could acquire no right or title to the tract claimed by him and on which he

Whilst recognizing the correctness of the law, you saw the injustice of the case so far as the individual settler was affected; and that hundreds of others were similarly situated who might and would be affected; and you directed that such grants should be administered by this department as, if possible, to protect this department as, if possible, to protect these settlers from such injustice, stating your belief, "that this can be done under the pro-vision which declares that these selections shall be made under the direction of the Secretary of

After years of waiting, Congress has failed to empower the department to make the neces-sary surveys whereby some of the grants might be adjusted, and no immediate prospect of such surveys was in sight. But a law was passed

aurreys was in sight. But a law was passed March 3, 1887, 23 revised statutes, 256, whereby the Secretary of the Interior was "directed to immediately adjust each of the railroad land grants made by Congress to aid in the construction of railroads."

With an earnest desire to obey the mandates of Congress, to give to the corporations their every right under the laws, and at the same time follow the direction given by you to see that ample protection should be extended to settlers and those seeking to make settlement on public lands (a matter which had been so long and so utterly overshadowed) I entered long and so utterly overshadowed) I entered upon a most careful consideration of the whole subject of the bistory and law relating to land grants, and concluded that if the department was clothed with authority to make indemnity withdrawals, as had been done in many instances, the exercise of that authority was a matter entirely within sound discretion and not a matter of legal obligation in any respect; that the same sound discretion which, in the interest of the empanies, justifies said withdrawals demanded peremptority in the public interest a speedy revocation of the same and that the most effective way of expediting an adjustment of the land grant, and doing exact justice to and so utterly overshadowed) I ente

the companies, guarding and promoting the interests of the settiers also, was to permit the public to enter into competition with the compinion in the selection of lands heretofore withdrawn for indemnity purposes.

Accordingly, on May 13, 1887, with your approval, rules were laid upon the different companies for whose benefit withdrawals had been made to show cause by a certain day why said withdrawals should not be revoked. Some of the companies failed to show cause, others filed answers assenting to the revocations as they had received satisfaction of the grant either in full or as far as possible, others assented on condition that lands covered by selections already made should be excepted from the order of revocation, and other companies objected to the made should be excepted from the order of the vocation, and other companies objected to the order of revocation as allegal and a violation of chartered rights. Briefs were filed and oral arguments accorded to the counsel of such comarguments accorded to the counsel of such companies as desired to be heard, all of which were fully and carefully considered as was due to the importance of the questions and the magnitude of the interests involved; and on August 13, 1857, my views were fully expressed in a decision rendered in the case of the Atlantic & Pacific Raifroad Company, which, by answer and argument raised nearly all the orjections that were presented in part only by a number of other companies. I send herawith a copy of the whole text of that opinion, in which these objections were answered seriatin. Two days inter the orders withdrawing the lands within the indemnity limits and rese ving the same from settlement withdrawing the lands within the indemnity limits and rese ving the same from settlement were revoked and the lands restored to the public domain and to settlement, first in the cases of the two companies which had not answered, second in those which answering, assented; the third in the cases of the compaties which set up defenses coming within the rulines in the foregoing opinion.

In the Congressional grants to the following railroad companies, the Hastings & Dakota, the St. Paul & Northern Pacific, the St. Paul, Minneapolis & Munitoba, the St. Paul & Sioux City,

neapolis & Manitoba, the St. Paul & Sioux City, the Sioux City & St. Paul and the Winona & St. Peter, it is provided that upon filing the maps the Siour City & St. Pan and the Whiba & St. Pater, it is provided that upon fillag the maps designating the routes of said roads and branches it shall be the duty of the Secretary of the Literior to withdraw from market the lands embraced within the provisions of the act

naking the grant.
In consequence of this provision these roads In consequence of this provision these roads were omitted from the orders of restoration. It will be seen from the order pa sed in the Atlantic & Pacific case, and which was applied to the other companies, mutatis mutandis, that whilst it was determined that the lands in question should not longer be withheld from appropriation under the settlement laws ever, precaution possible was taken to protect the legal rights of the corporations. Following this action, instructions were subsequently issued to the Commissioner of the General Land Office to detail all the available force in his office to the work of adjusting the road grants and proceeding as rapidly as possible with the same. The amount of land resto ed to the public domain, through orders revoking the ndemnity withdrawals, is stated by the Com-nissioner of the General Land Office to be 21,-

123,600 acres.

I beg to refer to what has been said, in an other part of this report in rela ion to the im-perative necessity of appropriations for the sur-veys, without which a complete adjustment of these railroad grants is not practicable at an early day.

OPERA HOUSE PANIC.

A Colored Congregation Stampedes With

Fatal Results.

DURGAM, N. C., Nov. 3J.—A negro man
rushed into Stokes' Opera House in this city, last night, where a large crowd of col-ored men and women had guthered to hear Mrs. S. A. Hughes, the only ordained colored female preacher in the South. He shouted: "Fire! Fire!" The scene that followed was almost indescribable. Women and children screamed, and all made a mad rush for the doors. The stronger fought with the weaker, and pushed them down, and the grouns of women, as they were being trampled, were heartrending. "My God! My God! I am dying! Let me up!" cried one poor unfor-tunate. No one heeded her. Down they came, some riding on the shoulders of others, and blocking the sidewalk. Fortu-nately the hall was soon cleared, but for fifteen minutes the freezied, fighting, screaming mass of humanity remained on screaming mass of humanity remained on the steps and it was impossible to move

Three negro men stood for a moment in the front windows of the second story and then sprang out, and striking the stone pavement they rebounded into the gutter. Strange to say, they were not seriously hurt. A boy leaped from a window at the rear of the building. He is hurt internally. A woman had all her clothes torn off and went running down the street. Another woman was stood upon her head, and thus carried from the top to the bottom of the steps. When the steps had been cleared Louisa Chavis, Jennie Stephens and anhavis died to-day at noon. The condition

of the other two is critical. There was no cause for the alarm and panic. The fire had no connection with the hall, and in itself did no damage. The space under the steps leading to the front entrance of the hall formed a closet in a store. From some cause fire was communicated to this closet, and when discovered was burning briskly. The manager of the opera house was made aware of the fire, and in a few moments would have had it extinguished without the knowledge of the congregation, if the negro man had not rushed into the hall and given the fatal

NATIONAL PROHIBITIONISTS.

inthering of Prominent Prohibitionists in Chicago—The National Convention.
Chicago, Dec. L—Over five hundred vorkers in the Prohibition cause gathered in battery D armory yesterday morning, at the session of the National Central Committee of the Prohibition party. The gal-leries of the hall were hung with immense mottoes representing the principles of the party. Among the more prominent of the leaders present were ex-Governor John P. St. John, of Kausas; Frances E. Willard. of Himois; Mother Stewart, of Ohio, and Dr. A. Jutkins, of Chicago. D. P. Sagenderf, vice-chairman of New York, was in the chair. The treas-urer's reports showed that \$1,000 had been paid out for Governor St. John's campaign expenses. A committee of seven was appointed to attend to immediate political organization and work. This committee consists of John Lloyd Thomas, of Maryland; John P. St. John, of Kansas; J. A. Van Vilot, of Rinois; James Black, of Penosylvania; Judge R. C. Pitmar, of Massachusetts; A. A. Hopkins, of New York, and Mrs. Brown, of Ohio. A National Committee, consisting of prominent temperance men in various States, was then appointed. Indianapolis was decided upon as the place for the party's next National Convention, and the first Wednesday in June, 1883, was named as the day, and no fusion was to be made with any other political organization.

Ex-Governor Dead.

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., Nov. 30.—Ex-Gover-tor William R. Miller died at his home in this place at about twelve o'clock yeste day. He was sixty-four years of age, hav-ing been born at Batesville, Ark, in 1823. He was a lawyer by profession and has been in public service more than thirty years. In 1876, he was elected Governor and re-elected in 1878. He was eight times chosen State Auditor, which office he held at the time of his death. at the time of his death.

Dr. Jerusalem, late manager of the Leipsic (German) Discount Bank, has com-mitted suicide.

THE POSTAL SERVICE

Report of the Postmaster-General-Satis-factory Increase of Revenue and Pro-portionate Decrease of Expenses. Washington, Dec. L.—The following items are from the Postmaster-General's annual report, sent to the President yester

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT, WASHINGTON Nov. 28, 1887,—Sim: The following report pre-jents an account of the transactions of this de-partment and the operation of the postal ser-tice during the year ended with the 30th of June. 1887, the second complete fiscal year of your administration. The multitudinous statis-tics necessary to exhibit in detail the affairs of this extensive service will be found intellithis extensive service will be found, intelli-cently digested, in the reports of the officers in charge of its several branches and the accom-panying tables, subjoined as appendices hereto-The expectation of growth and improvement in the affairs of the postal service, indulged in previous reports, has been realized during the

previous reports, has been realized during the past year. In part arising from an extension of the limits of mathable matter of the fourth class —ordered to meet the requirements of trade— and from the receipts of the special delivery service, but chiefly from the greater employment of all postal facilities consequent upon the rising husiness prosperity of the country, faith-fully reflected in the postal service, the revenues have gained upon the preceding year by nearly \$1,540,0, attaining a height never reached before, despite the restrictive operareached before, despite the restrictive opera-tion of various reductions in the rates of post-age. Upon the other hand, the study of econ-omy has not been without effect in restraining the necessarily rising scale of expenditure, so that the increase of cash disbursements has but little overstepped #2,80.00. Thus the deficiency charged upon the general treasury, which two years since was a round seven millions and a year ago about seventy thousand less, has been reduced almost three-sevenths, while the fac-

augury from our present circumstances gives hopes that during the current year it will nearly if not entirely disappear.

The prosperity of the service is the prosperity of the post-offices, and the gains of the year are marked in their advancement. The number of salafied officers at its beginning was, of the irst class, 75; of the second, 400; and of the first class, 75; of the second, 400; and of the third, 1,760; a total of 2,244 of the Presidential classes. By the annual review and readjust-ment, based upon the returns of their business for the four quarters ended with March 51, 1887, it was disclosed that on July I the net gains of the several classes were 7 in the first, 35 in the second and 50 in the third, making respective totals of 82 in the first, \$33 in the second and 1.819 in the third; in all 2,336, a net increase of 92. This showing indicates less than the real facts, because there were other offices entitled to advancement from the fourth to the third class which, by dolays in the necessary reports, were postponed until the next quarter. And on October 1 there were added to the third class 45 offices by assignment pursuant to law. thus making the total number of third class at thus making the total number of third class at the time of this report, 1.894, and of all Presi-dential offices, 2.381; the highest yet reached in the history of the department. By this annual adjustment many salaries were raised within the several classes, and com-

pensation of the Presidential postmasters as then existing was fixed for the current year at \$2,889,00, a net increases of \$194,881, or five (plus) per cent, upon the adjustment of last

To bring the general figures up to a recent date, the whole number of post-offices on Octo-ler 1 had become 55,434 of which 2,331 were salaried or Presidential offices, distributed in classes as before mentioned, and 53,03 were fourth class. Besides these were 62 branch offices or stations, an increase of 12 for the sale of stamps only. Of the whole, 8,689 were money order offices and 110 money order stations.

The appointments of postmasters numbered altog ther during the fiscal year 13.07%, of which 6.863 were to fill vacancies happening upon the expiration of commissions or by resignation; 2,585 upon removals or suspensions: 589 by death, and 3,443 to nowly established offices. Among those appointments, 832 were upon your commission to fill vacancies which happened from the causes and in the respective numbers following: By expiration of commissions, 250; by resignation, 122; by removal or suspension, 237; by death, 39, and upon the assignment of fourth class offices to a Presidential class, 145.

Among the Presidential postmasters in office

on March 4, 1885, the percentage of suspensions and removals so shown is \$1.5, and the percent-age of their voluntary resignations during the period of two years and upward, 18.3.

The free delivery service was, during the last fiscal year, extended to eight additional cities which had reached the limits then required by which had reached the limits then required by law of \$80,0 0 gross receipts or 20,00 population, and were thus within the discretionary consid-cration of the department. These were Bir-mingham in Alabama, Wichita in Kansas, Bat-tle Creck in Michigan, Winona in Minnesota, Joliet and Rock Island in Hinois, Bradford in Pennsylvania, and Rutland in Vermont. Their addition left the total number of places within the privileges of this system to be 189 at the end of the year.

ond of the year.

On July, 1886, the total annual rate of cost of the entire transportation service under the care a drug store. The breath had been literally trampled out of their bodies. Lousia of the Second Assistant Postmaster-General, which embraces all but the foreign mails, stood at \$22,073,833.56. The actual cost for the general transfer made being the store that th at \$25,63,836. The actual cost for the year was less, the expanditure already made being \$25,031,106.62 besides estimated unpaid liabilities of about \$252,030 for railroad service as yet in process of adjustment. So far as already paid, the expenditures, as contrasted with the rate of cost at which the year begun and also the annual rate of cost on the first day of the current fiscal year, in the several items of this service fiscal year, in the several items of this service are shown by the following table:

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899,354,698,16	\$25,021,1100 GZ	SE SECTION SE	Total
810,775 008 00 200,007 008 00 200,007 00 4,827,400 00 4,411,105,79 8 0,010,61	#14.707.281.94 95.107.81 1,714.81 91 4,684.381.91 41.757.84 825.885 41.757.81	\$15,974,843,00 \$51,785,00 1,516,847,00 4,516,845,00 4,601,545,00 831,543,00 831,543,00	uly usy transportation, weight usy to the facilities stroffice cars staticities with circles are route transportation, combont transportation ul mescenger service, til equipments (locks, keys, ags and catchers).
Rate, July 1,	Expended during year.	Rote, July 1,	

*In the it-m of mail equipment no fixed rate of expenditure is established, as in the other branches; the amount of last year's expendi-ture is given instead.

The money order service continued to in-crease in volume during the past year, the

amount in the aggregate of domestic orders is sued reaching \$117.462,560.89, and of interna-tional orders #9.655,580.31; 8.2 per centum of increase over the preceding year in domestic or-ders, and 55.86 per cent. in foreign. The aggre-gate of postal notes issued was \$11.768.824.81, an increase of but \$50.84.76. The reduction of the fee from eight to five costs for domestic mone orders not exceeding \$5, pursuant to the recom-mendation of two years ago, has operated to in-crease the use of this service to the remitters of small sums in a noticeable degree. The average amount of each order issued last year was but \$12.72 as against an average of \$44.35 in 1886, and larger sums in previous years. The total net revenue, after deducting all amounts payable by law from money order proceeds, was serious.

8719,385,45. In railroad transportation there was an addi-In railroad transportation there was an additional employment of 7.0 6 miles of newly built roads, lying in the following States to the number of miles respectively stated: Kansas, 1,338. 65; Nebraska, 754 65; Texas, 66; So; Illinois, 576.68; Minnesota, 417.75; Iowa, 335,25; Fiorida, 271; Oregon, 478.31, and in the Territory of Dalota, 449.13; the increased cost of which, not yet entirely adjusted, is estimated to be \$234,166.60.

changes, operations, and conditions, are presented in the report of the General Superintendent, from which and accompanying exhibits if appears that at the close of the fiscal year there were 913 lines of railway post-offices, an increase of forty-two, extending over 116,000.12 miles of railroad, an increase of 5,338.88; the clerks in the service 4,852, an increase of 2.73; the total daily distance run by clerks was 132,-538.55 miles, an increase of 7,213.38. The entire miles of service performed by clerks in crews was 107,467,643, a gain of 6,143,733 over the preceding year. These clerks handled 5,34 650,873 pb-ces of mail matter; 526,109,400 more than in the previous year.

the previous year. The entire weight of our foreign mail dis-patches by sea was nearly 1.500,800 kilograms or 3.275,239 pounds, of which 505,725 were of letter mail and 2.700,969 pounds of prints and mer-chandise samples. Nine-tenths of the letter mail was European bound, and but about one-tenth for South America, the West Indies, Pa-cific islands and the Orient combined; but of the paper and samples mail the latter countries received scarly one fourth, and the dispatches across the Atlantic were a little over threeacross the Atlantic were a little over three

The appropriation "for transportation of the foreign mails" was \$57,000, and the deficiency in that item is \$50,818,33. The appropriation

to pay balance was \$100,000. The general post-office revenue of the past car enjoyed its chief increase from the sale of tamps and stamped paper, in which the gain cas \$4.2.2.87.05, more than 10 per cent.

In exterior reading on small matter the law uppears to go upon the theory that advertisements ought not to be permitted upon third or fourth class parceis. I am not able to discern any sound objection to this privilege if the advertisement be so limited as to leave a sufficient space for the ad iross for postmirking and rating and for reforwarding or return addresses. The statutory clossification of small matter is not unsatisfactory, and can be but little, if at all, improved. Probably no relaxation of the guards over secondelass matter is desirable. But removal of the prohibition against reasonable advertising and printing on the wrappers of third and fourth class matter, so that they do not extend to communications of the nature of correspondence, would appear to be due to the business interests and convenience of the public, and is earnestly recommended.

WILLIAM F. VILAS Postmaster General. In exterior reading on mail matter the law ar-

THE FRENCH CRISIS. Grevy's Failure to Resign, as Promised,

Causes Threats of a Revolution.

Paris, Dec. 2.—At the Ministerial Council yesterday morning President Grevy informed M. Rouvier that he believed that public opinion was in his favor and that he could form a new Cabinet, and that he did not propose to make a communication to Parliament. This announcement caused general surprise, as yesterday was the date set for Grovy's resignation. When the Chamber of Deputies assem-

bled, M. Rouvier announced that the President had reconsidered his decision to see d a message to the Chamber containing his resignation, and therefore the Cabinet had ugain resigned. The announcement of the action of the Ministry was greeted with continued applause by the members of the

The Chamber of Deputies took a recess until four p. m. Great crowds surrounded the legislative building. The Chamber assembled at four p. m., but a further recess was taken until six o'clock. The Senato took a recess until three o'clock.

M. Paul de Roulde, leader of the Patriotic League, addressed a portion in front of the Chamber and gave the crowd "Vivo Grevy!" and "Vivo Boulanger!" The crowd rejoined with cries of "A bas Grevy!" and "Vive la Republique!"
The Garde Republicane assisted the

police to clear the whole space between the Palais Bourbon (the Parliament building) and the quays. The populace are re-fused admission to the Palais Bourbon, There was great excitement in the corridors of the Chambers when M. Mayo, director of La Linterne, and Rochefort acclared that they would begin a campaign

in Grevy's favor.
"I had rather keep an old servant," exclaimed Rochefort, "who robs me than to

Paul de Cassagnac writes that the situafrom hour to hour. Yesterday the Radicals had chosen De Freycinet as their champion against Forry; to-day they base their hopes on Figuret; to-morrow there may be still another change. Strangely enough Grevy is Floquer's uncle by mar-

A number of members of the Chamber of Deputies are in favor of impeaching M. Grevy if his resignation is not announced when the sitting is resumed.

THE BROOKVILLE FIRE.

ir Men Killed-Another Seriously In-

Inred-The House Totally Destroyed. BROOKVILLE, Kan., Dec. 2.—The fire at the Lawrence House early yesterday morning proved worse in the loss of life than as reported at first. Four firemen, Fireman Brimer, of Wamego, Kan.; Brakeman Harrigan, Wa-mego, Kan.; Mr. Farnsworth, Lincoln, Kan., and an unknown man were burned to death. The remains were found in the ruins. Charles Moss, of Tower Springs, Kan., was badly burned about the head and hands and internally and will probably die. A lady with a child in her arms jumped from the awaing to the ground safely. All the guests who got out did so by jumping from the windows in the second story. The cause of the fire is unknown. The loss is \$2,000 to \$25,000. The houses burned were those of J. Hirsch, dry goods; J. Stauber, hardware; J. Scichrist, hotel; Raiph Walter, boots and shoes; Ralph Walter, Jr., bakery; F. M. Hodge, billiards; J. Guiles, meat market; T. J. Lessing, dwelling; R. Walters, dwelling; R. Walters, Jr., dwelling. The total insurance is about \$5,00;

AN ABORTIVE LAW.

The Merritt Conspiracy Law Falls to Operate Against Typographical Trades Unionists. Cuicago, Dec. 2.—The first attempted

prosecution under the recently enacted lilinois statute, known as the Merritt Conspirace law, collapsed to-day. Two strik-ing job printers were charged with com-bining with other members of the Typographical Union to injure the business of le Bros., one of the firms composing the Typothetæ, an organization of employing printers. The offense of defendants lay in joining the concerted abandoument of work and taking part in the usual tactics to prevent others taking the vacated places. When the prosecution rested their case the defense submitted it.

dinary fertility of distorted imaginato the court without defense or argument. Another attorney for the prosecution then denounced the union men as having conspired to injure the complainants, whereupon the attorney for the defense, Alexander Sullivan, stated that if that were tho case there were two sets of conspirators, the Typographical Union and the Typo-thetæ. The court discharged the strikers. Iowa.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 2.—Acting Commis-surer Slockslager, of the General Land Office, has sent to the Secretary of the In-terior lists for his approval of lands due the St. Paul, Minneapolis & Omaha Rail-road Company, under the recent decision of Secretary Lamar in directing the adjust-ment of the grants in what is known as the Omaha cases. The lists sent to the Secretary give the railroad 202,000 acres more than the decision of Commissioner Sparks. Secretary Lamar has approved the lists.

THE BLOODY SHIRT.

Return of the Old and Most Reliable Friend of the G. O. P. Bathing its weary eyes in M . J. Benson Foraker's plurality, our esteemed Republican neighbo , the Tribhit the party of great moral pretensions, and thereupon it utters this word of reproof and warning:

"It might be as well to inquire whether reliance for success upon all sorts of political d-versons has not turned away the thoughts of men from those sound principles upon which men from those sound principles upon which alone the Republican party can depend for success."

The sound principles referred to are those proclaimed with such tempestuous insistance by that gentle and retiring Buckeye patriot, Mr. J. Benson Foraker. They are nothing less and nothing more than that rollicking old chestnut, the Bloody Shirt. It had generally been supposed that this venerable garment was carefully wrapped up in tar-paper and reposing in the clothespress of time. Of course Julius Casar Burrows and George Frisbie Hoar and a few other moldy ancients had a key, and went to the chest every once in awhile to weep fond tears over the relic; but few expected to see it patched up and wildly waved again before a wondering world,

But lo! Benny Foraker has waved

it wildly before the eyes of the Ohio Republicans, and they have received it with almost as much enthusiasm as if it were an office. Foraker's historical canvass-patched breeches have never caused such fervid excitement among the Ohio Republicans. It is said that the Western reserve is actually raising troops under the impression that a war with the South is going ou. Murat Halstead has blown a martial note upon the trumpet which has sounded for so many gallant raids. The crime and danger of allowing rebel Generals to come to Ohio and make Democratic speeches have been painted with a bold and free hand. The Buckeye heart has been fired. The next breeze might bring to our ears the sound of arms. Indeed, a Republican foray into Kentucky may at any moment be anticipated by the Louisville distillers.

The Tribune, gazing admiringly at Fire-Alarm Foraker's plurality, is inclined to think that the waving of the Shirt is what did the business. The New York Republicans have tried about every thing else lately. The Tribune hints that perhaps they might with advantage take up the "sound principles, i. e., Sanguine Shirt. But would the Union League stand it? The business men of Ohio were not particularly pleased with its reappearance. They have no objection to trad-ing with the South, and do not expect to increase business by abusing their customers. And are there many people in this State who pine to have the war lought over? The Foraker stage of opinion is one that New York has outgrown.

Still, as Democrats, we should rejoice to see the Bloody Shirt waved in New York next year. If the Republicans are forced to return to that, they must be politically hard up. Of course Fire-Alarm Foraker is the man for President on the war ticket. We forget Sergeant Bates' politics, but if he is a Republican, he would be a good man to run for Vice-President with Foraker. Then Bates would have the flag and Foraker the shirt. It would be rare fooling .- N. Y. Sun.

DEMOCRATIC TRIUMPH.

As New York Went in 1887, So the Country Will Go to 1888. ple of New York State have

spoken. They have declared that this is a Democratic State, safe for the Dem-

ocracy next year, and, therefore, ensuring the election of a Democratic President. The Republicans themselves must admit that, for did not their chief

organ, the New York Tribune, state, on October 31, in its editorial columns, 'as goes New York in 1887, so the country will go in 1888."

New York has gone decidedly Democratic, by an increased majority. Therefore, the country may

assured of a continuance of honest government in the Nation for four years more after March 4, 1889. The immense significance of this

glorious victory my be seen at a public and pick its bones. glance. And it was a glorious victory,

The enemy put forth almost superhuman efforts, knowing that they were in the last ditch and that defeat meant practical annihilation.

Never was a Republican campaign conducted with less regard for the canons of common decency, truthful-

ness and honor. The floodgates of abuse, scurrility, lies and misrepresentations were let loose and a black, turbid stream, such as has rarely defiled the surface of state politics, poured forth. The Republican press seemed to be inspired with especial powers of malignity and

the Republican orators with extraor-

The two United States Senators, who, by an unfair Repubacan apportionment, misrepresent New York in Washington, stumped the state from Lake Erie to New York harbor, and with them went Senator Allison, of

With the traveling circus went the nead of the Republican ticket, Colonel Fred Gr: 1t, and the audience at each one night's stand, and the readers of the Republican organs were constantly reminded that he was the son of his father, and husband of his wife.

ily and unhesitatingly responding to

every call made upon them. But the Democracy of New York, stannel and true, stood to their arms undauntedly and faced the enemy with unbroken ranks.

They overthrew the enemy, as they have repeatedly done before, and inflicted upon them a crushing defeat.

The country may rest assured that New York State is ever sure for the Democracy. - Albany (N. Y.) Argus.

PEACE AND PLENTY.

The Happy Results of Three Years of Democratic Experience.

Democratic Experience.

Three years ago the electors of the country placed the Executive branch of the Government in the hands of the Democratic parts. The trust reposed in it has been faithfully fulfilled. The country has had the benefit of a wise, safe, henest and economical administration of the government, and that is all that is expected of any political party. The laws have been impartially enforced, the revenues, have been faithfully collected, the standard of official integrity has been raised, the navy baseen purified in its methods and strengthened in its resources, and in its foreign relations that peace as well as the honor of the country has been steadily preserved.

There is no denying these ringing

There is no denying these ringing and unchallenged statements of Governor Hill. They are, however, a source of sore discomfort to certain Republican leaders, who can not help seeing that the country is in a distressingly and, as far as they are concerned, an ominously prosperous condition. More partisanship may gnash its teeth at the success of a Democratic Administration, for it is thereby deprived of the cakes and ale which an office-grabber always includes in his definition of patriotisms but the great body of American people are grateful for National prosperity, no matter by which political party it is achieved.

These Republican leaders were very . poor prophets in 1884. They foreteld National ruin, the extinction of our industries and a general crash and smash in case a Democrat should be made President. There was to be an eclipse of the sun and moon; there were to be epidemics and plagues, the Confederate debt was to be paid; slavery was to be re-established at once and the undertaker would make ready to take charge of the defunct Republic. This was the agreeable picture presented to American citizens by the politicians who had fattened on the perquisites of office, given away, two hundred million acres of our publie domain, spent one hundred millions of dollars on a navy of which any third rate power on the globe would be ashamed, and retained unnecessary taxes until the Treasury was bursting with a surplus which the people needed for the conduct of their busin ness and which the Government had no use for.

These gentlemen, who feared the alvent of the Democracy and pretended that their fears were born of their disinterested patriotism, have been make ing history twenty-five years, and the people are reading now page by page. Senator Sherman, Mr. Foraker, of Ohio. and Mr. Blaine, of Maine, have sturdily protested that the Republican escutcheon was undimmed by seandals, and that when the books were exame ined they would be found to be correct. Thoughtful men have marveled at the recklessness of such assertions at the monumental impertinence which insisted that black and white, was insulted the people by regarding them as fools who liked nothing better than to be gulled. There was the Whisky ring, the Credit Mobilier infamy, the land robbery, the monstrous cor- . ruption by which poor Hayes was counted in, the innumerable navy jobs. and a score more of colossal missicaltion and the proof of dishonesty. Still the Republican escutcheon was undimmed.

"You will be ruined!" they cried, and hoped the lie would keep them in power. They even scattered throughout Virginia a lot of chromos ornamented with a slave block and an auctioneer selling black men to the highest bidder, and a legend containing the agonizing assurance that if Mr. Cleveland were elected the old times would all come back again, and the South would fight and win in Congress the battles which it lost in the Wilderness and at Appomattox. Business was to go to the dogs, taxes were to be raised and every conceivable disaster light like a vulture on the carcass of the Re-

Well, the country has had three years of Democratic experience. The sun shines, the rain falls, the crops grow, the seasons change just the same as ever. Not quite the same, though, for we have never been so prosperous or contented as we are to-day. The bloody shirt is waved in vain. The three palsies have not taken effect. The South: North, East and West never understood each other so well, and never respected each other so much. We have become one people, a united people, a satisfied people, a people who are growing rich. That is enough to say, for it includes law and order, the protection of our homes and honesty in public office.

The Republicans would like as change. But the people will have no change, and that ends it.—N. Y. Herald.

-The Democratic party is in the saddle again, and it is there to stay. It has buried opposition parties in the past, and will bury others in the future. It has about finished the grave of the Republican party, and next year it will bury that party. Lord help us to be sufficiently thankful. Shelbyville (Ind.) Democrat.

-The Cincinnati Commercial Gazelle resents the idea that John Sher-Money was poured forth in the most man lacks tact. The truth is John not lavist & anner, the quarantine ring only lacks tact, but he lacks patriceand the monopolies contributing read- ism. - Attenta Constitution.